

## Westerly Case in Supreme Court

**Defendant Chauffeur's Exceptions Overruled—Case Goes to Superior Court for Sentence—Liquor Cases Continued—Baptist Rally Day Services—Lerk Crandall's Salary Increased.**

The supreme court of Rhode Island handed down Thursday afternoon a decision in the Westerly case brought against John V. Welford, for driving away without stopping after he had knowingly caused an accident on the Watch Hill road, by running his automobile into a horse and wagon. The defendant's exceptions are overruled and the case is sent back to the superior court for sentence.

The complainant, Chief Bransfield, charged that the defendant on August 1, 1915, "did not after knowingly causing an accident by collision with a team on the highway, driven by one Frank Collins, forthwith bring said motor vehicle to a full stop or return to said scene of said accident, but then and there voluntarily and without excuse drove said motor vehicle away from said scene of said accident, with great speed, against the statute," etc.

The defendant's motion to quash the complaint was overruled in the superior court and exceptions taken. The defendant was found guilty by a jury, and the defendant's motion in arrest of judgment was overruled. The case went to the supreme court on the defendant's exception to the ruling of the superior court. The question involved included the sufficiency of the complaint and whether the facts stated therein constituted an offense against the laws of the state.

Considerable interest has been shown in the outcome of this case in view of the frequency with which automobiles speed away from an accident. In its verdict the court says an opinion is to follow later.

In the civil suit for damages brought by Collins, the supreme court gave decision in favor of the complainant a few weeks ago. Welford, at the time of the mixup, was the chauffeur for the McRae family of Pittsford, summer residents of Watch Hill.

The regular session of the Third district court, Judge Oliver H. Williams, was held in Westerly Friday, and nearly an hour was taken up in the argument of a request from Attorney A. T. L. Ledwidge, that the liquor seizure cases of vessels and liquors supposed to be the property of Oliver E. Gavitt, be set aside in the two drug stores in the Martin house block. Mr. Ledwidge declined to make appearance in the case, but asked for continuance, stating that he would probably file motions in the cases by next Wednesday. He wanted time to determine just what he would do.

Attorney Harry B. Agard, the prosecutor, objected to this unusual mode of procedure and stated that the state was ready to proceed.

Judge Williams stated the position of the court in the many points as they were raised, and finally decided to deny the request of Mr. Ledwidge that he be given time to consider what he intended to do, especially as no appearance had been made in court as claimants for the seized vessels and liquors.

The court then called the liquor seizure cases, of both Gavitt and Almy, for trial. Mr. Ledwidge made appearance in both cases, and asked that they be continued for one week. He said he had been busy engaged in other courts and had not the time to prepare defense in these cases. He would like time to consult with his clients and to get at an understanding

ing of the facts. The cases were then continued to next Friday.

John Rice pleaded guilty to intoxication and was fined \$2 and costs of \$2.40, which he promised to pay before sunset. He was released on his own recognizance in order to give him opportunity to fulfill his promise.

The alleged burglary cases of Joseph S. Grills against Rosario and Joachim Spinato were continued for one week.

The case of Ellery Barber, overseer of the poor, against Edward Johnson, was continued for one week at the request of Attorney Ledwidge, who stated that probably satisfactory agreement could be made with the woman in the case. All other cases on the docket were continued.

Everett E. Whipple, treasurer of the local committee of the Lincoln Farm association has received this self-explanatory communication:

Dear Sir—Your work in behalf of the Lincoln Farm association has been of such an exceptional character that I wish to extend to you on behalf of the executive committee, a most cordial expression of their appreciation. If members of all the committees evinced the same spirit of unselfish, patriotic co-operation, the great work of the Lincoln National Park would soon be finished.

The names of all contributors secured by your committee have been entered on our records, and the certificates of acknowledgment will be forwarded at the earliest possible date. Again thanking you for your valuable assistance and generous co-operation, we remain, "To the memory of Lincoln," faithfully yours, The Lincoln Farm Association, by Frederick E. Pierce, General Manager.

Rev. George W. Rigler, D.D., presided at the Rally day services in the First Baptist church, which were largely attended. The exercises included an address on Men in the Church, by Deacon Ethel Wilson, and Miss Lizzie C. Green spoke on Women in the Church. Rev. C. B. Marston of Stonington gave an address on Attendance, and Hon. Albert G. Martin spoke on Church Finance. There was vocal and instrumental music and a light supper was served.

Rain prevented the baseball game on Friday afternoon between teams representing the Bulkley school of New London and the Westerly high school.

**Local Laconics.**

Jack Bennett of Norwich was in White Rock Tuesday evening.

Bert Brown of Wheeler's place was in Westerly Friday on business.

Rev. Joseph L. Peacock was in Pawtucket Friday, attending the funeral of a niece.

Rudolph Peterson of White Rock attended the Providence-Montreal opening game at Providence Thursday.

Rapid progress is being made in the building of the stretch of state road between Ashaway and Hope Valley.

Professor Robinson of Mystic entertained the pupils of Westerly high school with piano selections Friday morning.

Senator Arnold has reported favorably for the finance committee an act increasing the salary of Edward G.

Cundall, clerk of the Third district court at Westerly, from \$600 to \$800 a year.

Steamboat Inspectors Withey and Stewart of New London came to Westerly Friday and inspected the steamer Watch Hill.

Grand council degree was conferred upon F. Lee Gavitt of Westerly at the annual convention of the grand commandery of Royal Arvanum.

Mohagan lodge of Odd Fellows has accepted an invitation to make a visitation to Westerly, May 19, as guests of their brethren of Narragansett lodge.

Rev. William F. Williams of Christ Episcopal church officiated at the funeral of George Cranston Friday morning. Burial was in River Bend cemetery.

It is announced that the Nichols & Langworth burned shops in Hope Valley will be rebuilt, but that the Dock gas engines will be manufactured elsewhere.

The state senate has passed an act condensing the name of the Rhode Island College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts to the Rhode Island State College.

William C. Greenway of Boston spent Friday in Westerly, the guest of Elmer J. Flynn. Mr. Greenway made this trip for the special purpose of attending the Westerly-Bulkeley game.

Frederick Eldredge denies that William Abern has any fair claim against him for money due on contract, and that as a matter of fact he is not indebted to Abern. Mr. Eldredge has no knowledge of any suit brought by Abern, as published.

Charles Clayton, known to circus fame as "the Strong Man," is preparing to leave Shannock. He has been convicted of selling liquor and sentence suspended on condition that he left his present abiding place and the state. He will re-enter the show business and give exhibitions of his great strength.

At the annual meeting of Providence chapter, American Institute of Banking, Henry C. Perry of the Washington Trust company, Westerly, was elected a delegate to the national convention in Seattle, next June. Lewis Stanton of the Industrial Trust company, Westerly, was selected as an alternate.

New Britain—Comptroller Hanford L. Curtis has completed his report of the inventories of the city's property.

tion known as the Fin. Fur and Feather club. The name has been changed to the Witch's Rock Country club, and an application has been made to the secretary of the state for a charter.

The report shows that the city owns property aggregating \$5,540,968.03.

Naugatuck—The Rev. J. O't. Sheridan, pastor of St. Francis church, is in Chicago. While in that city he will consult the physician who operated upon him some months ago.

Just Arrived a Carload of Maxwell Automobiles. Can be seen at Auto Garage, No. 21 Chestnut Street.

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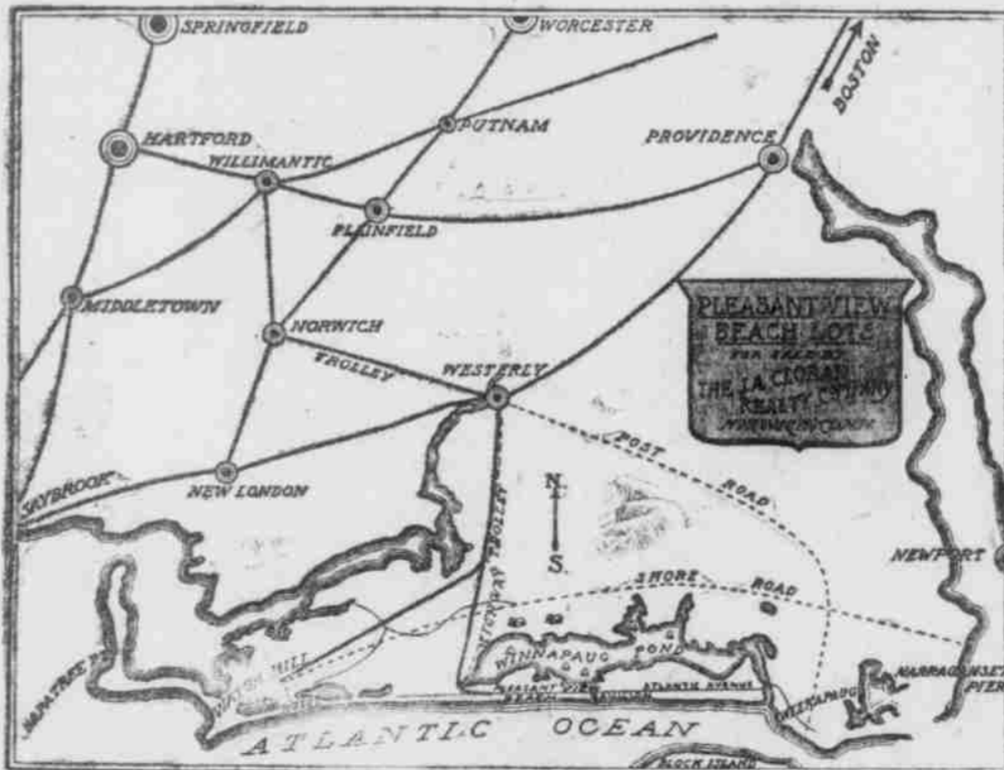
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